

Passed March 1828

An
Inaugural Dissertation
on
Rheumatismus, or Rheumatism,
by
Charles Evans
of
Philadelphia
3rd month 27th 1828.

John. Lewis. 1872

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It is not to be expected that the inaugural address of a Student of Medicine, when treating on a disease which has claimed the attention and investigation of the most enlightened practitioners of the science, should be the vehicle for conveying a new theory of that disease, or a course of remedial practice heretofore untried.

The labours of the Student should be directed towards the acquisition of the stores of knowledge, which are to be found in the works of those, to whom, experience has given the right to instruct; and whose practical success has convinced the correctness of the opinions they inculcate, rather than in building up a novel theory, or advocating a new practice, which it can hardly be expected he has had an opportunity of testing, and which after experience may prove to be fallacious. He should not however blindly adopt the theories, or advocate the opinions of any man or set of men, without

It is not to be expected that the compound action
of a kind of medicine, when taken in a single dose
will produce the effect of a series of doses. It is the
lightness, the smallness of the doses, which is the cause of
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exercising his judgment in making the selection, and investigating and testing the premises from which their conclusions were drawn. It is therefore his duty to collect, and collate the facts and opinions, mentioned and enforced by those authors of distinction, who have treated upon the disease he has chosen for the subject of his thesis; and avail himself of the knowledge ^{thus obtained}, in deciding upon the practice he may hereafter pursue in its treatment.

I have chosen for the subject of the present essay, a disease, which though it seldom proves fatal; yet from the slight causes by which it is sometimes produced, the pain which it inflicts on those who are its victims, its liability to recur, and the irremediable injury to which it sometimes gives rise, is to be regarded as a most serious and formidable complaint.

A disease, occasionally so intractable as to yield to no course of practice, however carefully devised and patiently pursued, but which holds on in its career, sapping the strength of the patient's constitution, annihilating the power of locomotion, and impairing the other functions of the extremities; presents as strong

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claims for accurate knowledge, and efficient treatment, as are demanded by those more active maladies, which either speedily submit to the efforts of the Physician, or terminate the patients sufferings with his life — It may perhaps be owing to the circumstance that death so seldom results from rheumatism, and the consequent difficulty of elucidating its phenomena by morbid anatomy, that some of the doctrines connected with its pathology and treatment still remain involved in obscurity and doubt. The disease is therefore the more to be dreaded because (notwithstanding the frequency of its occurrence and the number of cases which daily claim the care of the practitioner) the most experienced, are sometimes in doubt respecting the best mode of relieving the suffering, and obviating the evils to which it gives rise. We find indeed numerous authors who recommend their own peculiar plans of treatment with the greatest confidence, and assert that they are attended with the fullest success; but these plans are frequently of a directly contrary tendency, and we are forced to the conclusion that some must necessarily be

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improper, unless indeed we imagine that all are equally useless. — Rheumatism has been defined variously, according as its pathology has been investigated, and gradually understood, or in compliance with the favorite speculations of the author, or the fashionable theory of the period in which he wrote. Perhaps that is least liable to objection which describes it as "Pain of a peculiar kind usually attended with inflammatory action, affecting the white fibrous textures belonging to muscles and joints, such as tendons, aponeuroses, and ligaments; the synovial membranes of the bursa and tendons, and nerves; occasioned by the influence of variable temperature, or by direct application of cold, or by moisture".

Gydenham supposes the ancients to have blended gout and Rheumatism together, considering the latter as a modification of the former disease, and using the term Arthritis to express both indiscriminately, and according to Pseudo more it was not untill the year sixteen hundred and forty two that it was treated of separately —

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Gallonius a physician of Paris appears to have had the
 merit of first making a distinction between the two diseases.
 He mentions that it had been previously confounded
 with Catarrhus and Arthritis. He named, defined, and treat-
 ed the complaint in accordance with the system
 of Humane Pathology which was then so much in vogue,
 and considered so salutary. Since then several, even among
 those who have held a high rank in the profession, have deemed
 to it the character of an idiopathic complaint and ende-
 voured to remove it with gout, and establish the antiquated
 doctrine of the two being but modifications of the same
 disease — Experience has proved this idea to be incorrect
 and set the matter at rest; but the distinction between them
 is not always clearly defined, and when Rheumatism is
 unattended with fever, those who have not much experience
 may be readily deceived. In general however it arises from
 a cause which has been obvious, without any previous affec-
 tion of the stomach, and the larger joints and this appen-
 -dages are the seats of its action; while Gout originates in

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Most authors treat of Rheumatism under two divisions Acute and Chronic, but there are some forms of the disease which may be more properly designated Subacute. When treated in the limbs it takes the name of Lumbago, and when in the hip it is denominated *Toraxia*. — Though there is a close analogy in the pathology of these affections, yet their relative distinguishing symptoms are generally well marked, and enable the practitioner in most instances, readily to decide which form of the complaint he is called upon to relieve.

The acute stage of Rheumatism is distinguished by the severe pain and the accompanying fever; while the chronic, though sometimes the original disease is more generally the sequel of the acute, and differs from it in the absence of the general fever, in the inflammation of the parts being less severe, and is characterised principally by a dull heavy pain and stiffness. There is likewise less disposition to metastasis in the latter than in the former division. Tuberculate Rheumatism may be considered as comprising that form of the disease

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where the local affection is more circumscribed and isolated, than in general acute rheumatism, and the accompanying fever of a milder type; its symptoms being intermediate between that, and a chronic form. — But although these differences in the symptoms which characterize these varieties are generally so well marked as to present much difficulty in discriminating between them, yet instances may and do occur, when it is by no means easy to distinguish a slight degree of one from the other; and it is sometimes still more difficult to decide to which variety the more local affection is to be referred. — In seeking for the causes which predispose the system for the reception of a rheumatic attack, many Authors have assumed a hereditary taint as one; but as this is not susceptible of positive demonstration, I shall content myself with stating, that certain families, those who are of a sanguineous temperament, with a white skin, and in whom perspiration is readily profused by bodily exercise are the most likely to suffer from it. The disease is not however confined to any particular class of persons; nor are its attacks circumscribed from any particular

[illegible]

period of life: for although in its acute form, it sensibly affects individuals between twelve and forty years of age, yet in some stages, it is not always exempted from it; and the infirmities of old age are sometimes doubtless augmented by the influence of this with which it is accompanied. — Speaking generally, it may be said, that all those causes which tend to weaken the system, and produce debility, give rise to the attack of rheumatic inflammation: hence persons recovering from long confinement, even, whose strength has been greatly prostrated, or whose ^{lungs} organs are so diseased as not to yield sufficient nutriment to support the usual tone of the system, and hence who are much debilitated by long confinement or excessive perspiration are more liable to its attacks when exposed to the influence of exciting causes, than those who are in the enjoyment of health. Local injuries, seasons of the year, and climate, are likewise inductive of the same effects. — The sensible qualities of the atmosphere, cold and moisture, suddenly or unusually applied in general, the exciting causes of rheumatism. Cold being a relative

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room, it is to be understood here, as applied to the difference of temperature between the atmosphere with which the patient is, or has been surrounded, and one, into which he is suddenly introduced, or to which, he is accidentally exposed. Thus after leaving a room where the system has been relaxed by warmth and exercise, exposure to the external air will probably excite rheumatism, in a system thus predisposed to its attack; and this effect is rendered more probable if to the relative coldness of the air, moisture is superadded. A partial application of cold and moisture separate or combined, as a stream of cold air blowing upon some part of the body, while the remainder is protected; or cold water poured upon the head, feet &c. as it is moist, will likewise frequently produce the same similar effects. Wearing damp clothes, sleeping in damp beds, or living in damp houses, are but different exhibitions of the same agents, and acting under like circumstances must be followed by the same results. —

Originating from the various causes which I have enumerated as predisposing, and exciting, we are naturally led to look for

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its victims among that class of society who are most frequent-
ly brought within the sphere of their influence, and more
constantly subjected to their deleterious effects. Thus we
often find the wards of our hospitals, filled with Sailors,
who after having trod the sterns of the ocean for years,
and withstood the vicissitudes of almost every climate, are at
last obliged to seek an asylum, where they may procure
an alleviation of the severe penance, which this disease
exacteth for exposure and hardships, either thoughtlessly incurred,
or the necessary attendant upon their avocation. The inhabi-
tants of districts of marshy country, overcast by foggy, tedious
interminable long marches during continued rains, and then whose
entertainments consist of clammy and cold, as delicious, fester-
ing, and gross provisions, liable to this disease. At ~~these~~ times,
an excellent guard in the City, the Parochial is so frequented
as when, but those denuded with cold and misery, procure
relief, and the pain of their miseries, as to another class.

Rheumatic inflammation appears to be excited primarily,
in these cases, it does not readily take on the suppurative

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swell, as ligaments, tendons, & nervous expansions, bursa,
 and the muscles themselves and sometimes through one exten-
 sion, extends to the adjacent cellular membrane; in which case,
 pus is secreted. A gelatinous fluid is sometimes effused into
 the sheath of tendons, and capsular ligaments, and occasionally
 coagulable lymph is thrown out by the inflamed vessels,
 which becoming partially organized, thickens the Fuscia
 and tendons, and impairs or destroys the motion of the
 joint, or by pressure upon the nerves produces partial local
 -osis. — There is no other disease which presents such extra-
 -ordinary examples of sudden and complete metastasis: the
 abatement of pain in one part, frequently does not prepare
 the way for the appearance of every morbid symptom in
 some other, quite remote from the former; and by this means,
 the most seated organs, as the heart, brain, kidneys, and intestinal
 tube, are sometimes subjected to its action. The constitutional
 irritation, and other symptoms are proportionally severe
 according to the sensibility of the part affected, the violence
 of the attack made upon each, being the same.

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In general there is but a short interval between the exposure to the causes producing this condition, and the primary symptoms of the disease, and the attack is first announced by chill, and the usual phenomena of purpura, as loss of appetite, sickness and vomiting, morbid and hard stool. The pain which now comes on, most frequently commences in the lower joints of the lower extremities, the ankles and knees; the joints of the back and upper extremities soon participate and the parts become swollen from the accumulation of the humors, and swelling of the tendons, and at times a vivid red appearance owing to the injection of arterial blood into the capillaries. This redness and swelling are not however always present. As the constitution degenerates, a fever is quickly induced, which is indicated by a fever, rapid, quick pulse, varying from ten hundred and ten to one hundred and twenty; the tongue is at first coated with a white fur, which soon advances for a covering of brown mucus, the skin is warm, but moistened with a profusion of a peculiar acid taste and odor; the breath

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constipated but readily relaxed by purgatives; and the urine scanty and high coloured. When a crisis occurs it refers to a bilious sediment. The fever is of a remittent type with exacerbations in the evening; at which time there is likewise an increase of suffering from pain. External warmth also aggravates the pain. Sometimes occasional ease is experienced when perfectly at rest, but the slightest motion produces extreme agony — When the local affection preceeds the chill, (as is sometimes the case) the pain is steadily fixed in one part; but when the chill is precedent, it wanders through the system most capriciously, affecting one joint after another; or darting internally upon some vital organ; rendering every spot which it touch peculiarly tender and sensitive.

In many cases the disease appears to run a defined course, uninfluenced by any remedial treatment. Its continuance varies being seldom less than ten days, or more than six weeks; cases however occur, in which it is protracted far beyond that period. Typhus is the disease most likely to be mistaken for Rheumatism.

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and in some cases, it is difficult to form a correct diagnosis; but by the concurrence of several circumstances, they are generally readily distinguished. As gout has its origin in the stomach, that organ is always affected previous to its attacks, and in contradistinction to Rheumatism, it seizes upon the smaller joints, where it generally remains without metastasis during the whole period of its course. The fever in gout has a more complete remission than in Rheumatism; and the pain is sometimes absent for hours together. Hereditary pre-disposition to gout, serves to distinguish it, as do likewise the studied conversations about the joints. Those cases of Acute Rheumatism which occasionally occur in persons of an arthritic diathesis, are however very perplexing, yet seldom occur in discrimination, and are likely to belong into a practice injurious in other diseases. Gout may be distinguished from Syphilis, with which alone it is liable to be confounded, by the pain which attends the fever in Syphilis, by the tumourness of the thigh, and the retraction of the testicle in the latter. The pain in Syphilis does not extend so high as that

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attendant upon ^Dense Abscess, and while the latter is attended with swelling in the former the whole buttock sometimes swells away. When the then enters inflammation is seated in the Thigh, or Gluteo-femoral Muscles, it may possibly be mistaken for Phlegmon; but the joint is lost, and the pain greater; and increased in protraction. That Arteritis is one of the most tedious and ungovernable of acute inflammations, cannot be doubted, but when subjected to a judicious course of treatment it may almost always be cured, and it never proves fatal unless when translated to some vital organ. As serious apprehension, as regards the life of the patient, need therefore be entertained, so long as the disease confines its progress to the natural parts of the body, but in phlegmon, &c. we need not be so alarmed; in attack, there is no question in which organ it can be less certainly proved, and when inflammation and pain remain fixed in the part first attacked, without manifesting a disposition to shift about, and the constitutional irritation is not severe, we are the thing the nature the violence and persistence cover, & with moderate leeching & blisters or cups, we may soon

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anticipate a ~~short recovery~~, and in more violent cases, a subsidence of the pain and phlogosis, an abatement of fever, with clearing of the tongue, and the vessels becoming open and regular, and the urine losing its high colour, or depositing a lactitious sediment all ~~very~~ ^{very} moderate ^{or} increasing convalescence. The disease sometimes assumes the chronic form, and after long continued irritation, may ultimately give rise to hydroperic. —

As regards the pathology of this disease, ~~several~~ ^{different} opinions have been entertained, ~~the~~ ^{most} of them ~~rather~~ ^{rather} ~~peculiar~~ ^{peculiar} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~well~~ ^{well} ~~adapted~~ ^{adapted} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~subject~~ ^{subject} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~investigation~~ ^{investigation}. The ~~latter~~ ^{latter} ~~most~~ ^{most} ~~pathologists~~ ^{pathologists} bestowed upon it the name of Rheumatism from an idea that the irritation and phlogosis was caused by the accumulation of the blood being ~~filled~~ ^{filled} ~~with~~ ^{with} ~~thrombus~~ ^{thrombus} the muscles and tendons, which ~~has~~ ^{has} ~~been~~ ^{been} ~~ascribed~~ ^{ascribed} ~~its~~ ^{its} ~~circumstances~~ ^{circumstances} to a peculiarity in the inflammation itself.

That the acute inflammation is precisely antagone to that of any other disease depending upon an engorgement of arterial vessels, is now generally admitted and all its peculiarities, as severe pain, full quick pulse, and the secretion

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which follows, when resolution is not obtained, are to be attributed to its being located in the fibrous tissue —

In its primary character it can hardly be considered as a constitutional disease. The circulation in the parts affected is arrested, weak and less, and, by these circumstances which act as predisposing causes; and the consequent irritation, it is to be feared, when the application of cold and moisture, invites a unnatural flow of blood to the parts, which producing the debilitated and relaxed capillaries, engorgement and inflammation necessarily ensue, the system soon sympathizes with the local injury, and fever and the other general morbid symptoms are developed. These symptoms are mild or severe according to the extent, or distribution, of the disease, local, affected; and in the chronic stage, fever and some other of the most dangerous are not to be detected —

In reviewing the different modes of treatment in Acute Rheumatism, recommended by those to whom we are taught to look up, as to men authorized by professional eminence, and supposed to be qualified to dictate and to teach,

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to dissimiles; and often to antagonists are true in cases
 acute; and so *hinc*, necessity does each Physician "test
 his antagonist to be wrong, that a certain remedy might be
 almost made to suppress, either that the disease exists in
 differentia in the most opposite states of the system; or, that
 the united experience of the Faculty, urges only to prove which
 plans of treatment can succeed or in which, without determining
 what better method should be substituted in their place, why
 we not however suppose that like the travellers who disputed upon
 the extent of the Channel, in some respects all are right and all
 are wrong; and reason, their disagreements by the limited, or
 the good, that localities and idiosyncrasies impress upon the system,
 even the disease, that can peculiarly colour and colourize.
 In making out a course of curative treatment for any com-
 plaint, it is not expected that it should be so occasionally
 detained, as a campaign within its limits, whereas for even
 the most every animating system to which accident or pecu-
 liar distress may give birth. The Physician does not, or at
 least ought not, to "rescise" for a disease by name, or absolutely

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but is expected to direct his immediate agents according to the morbid symptoms developed, and the constitution and habits of his patient. — The treatment however can be secured, not from the errors of their empiricism, which is not grounded upon correct ideas of the pathology of the disease under cure; and more safely recommended, unless sanctioned by an extensive and accurate experience. —

The majority of the treatment further is extraneous, the various they did, upon the origin of acute inflammation, nor recommended copious and profuse abstraction of blood; as the most speedy and effectual remedy, that could be adopted. & that of these however, alleged that the disease possessed a peculiar tendency to produce general debility, and therefore advocated bloodletting altogether as not reaching the local affection, and being calculated to increase this state of weak debility: it is so difficult to remove, and so insidious in its consequences. In the treatment of this disease as it is generally met with in our climate, venesection is one of the first and most important means to which ^{we} resort for the alleviation.

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of the symptoms and attending to the parts, and when judgment is required nothing is found so effectual in giving relief, as just employment sometimes, without substituting the force of the complaint. . . . It is necessary however to form a correct judgment, in seeing, in what to this is any other remedy, and to what it is applicable, to the violence of the attack, the constitution and temperament of the patient; and individuals sometimes exhibit according to his own previous symptoms. So necessary it be correct to such an extent as to preserve great general stability, or constitutional soundness; for thereby inclinations to some internal or you may be induced, or the disease be so fastened but in its course, as ultimately to degenerate into the Chronic form; but where the constitution is robust, the pain acute, and the joint high with a full serous, putres an immediate resort to bloodletting should be had; and aspletion and may be continued at suitable intervals until the violence of the joint is exhausted, and the acute removed to its natural softness and frequency. . . .

After the pain and this constitutional derangement have abated, even though the local inflammation may still remain; it is

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better to have recourse to the application of Leeches, & open
 to the affected part; rather than to continue the abstraction
 of blood from the system generally. When the attack is
 made upon the diaphragm, or intercostal muscles, & is gradually
 to insulate itself; or upon some important organ, as the
 heart, stomach &c. copious bloodletting, is instantly demanded,
 and must be pursued in until relief is obtained. I have
 mentioned, without dwelling, arising from previous congestion, as
 being a predisposing cause to this complaint, in cases of this char-
 acter, and also in persons of intemperate habits & individuals with
 a languid constitution, great caution must be observed, though even
 here, the presence of high inflammatory diathesis, justifies the
 use of venous bleeding. When success fully applied, the loss
 of blood allays the severity of the suffering, removes the sen-
 sation of oppression and insulates all the febrile movements,
 the patient at the same time not being conscious of a want of
 strength. It is better to draw moderately, and repeat the operation
 as circumstances may demand; rather than to take away a very
 large amount at one time.

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1. *Chrysomelidae*

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We are not however to rely too much upon bleeding, in our
 efforts to eradicate this disease from the system. A more
 efficacious than any other, is a full and judicious evacua-
 tion of the inflammatory action, and partial suspension of
 secretion, for almost invariably this disease must attend upon
 the early stage of an attack of Acute Rheumatism. To over-
 come this point which is inducing, vascular action, a variety
 of cathartics have been recommended. Geopit when the func-
 tions of the Liver are deranged, or the disease complicated with
 some other visceral distention, the Potash Salt, or the sulphate
 of Soda and Magnesia, either alone or combined with an
 infusion of Senna, or distilled lemon or combined with Jalap;
 or Elixir of nitrous acid, or Symplic of Senna, or Colicinal
 Rheumata and Rochelle Salt, will be found to answer every
 indication. The doses of these medicines are to be regulated as
 regards quantity and frequency, according to the urgency of the
 symptoms which call for their employment, any particular
 of the patient's situation or constitution being constantly kept
 in view. One or other of the following formulae, will be pro-

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the *Prima via* with either 'Rattonist Powder' or 'Ratton's Emetic',
 previous to the exhibition of 'Ipec'; and Lactarius recommends
 it, with the decoction of Magnesia, extract of Marsh-mallows and
 Luce. — In the use of this class of medicines, the most
 guard against carrying them so far, as greatly to excite the
 system or to produce so much irritation in the intestinal canal,
 as to excite a metastasis from the more acrimonial parts, and
 affected: they must, however be persisted until the *Prima*
via is thoroughly cleaned, and the inflammation entirely subdued.
 Although the increase of pain from going to stool, is some in-
 dication to the use of 'Ergatives', yet the great relief which is
 usually attendant upon their judicious application, greatly over-
 balances this, and entitles them to the high estimation in which
 they are universally held. It is better, if other circumstan-
 ces admit, to give the purge in the morning; in order that
 its operation may be over before night; at which time, if
 there is much pain, it may be advisable to administer it, anytime.

At the same time that we are cleansing the bowels, the
 mucous, and the Punctures, which often prove successful adjuvants

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in the cure of this disorder. A solution of Life Salt, or Rubbe
may therefore be given advantageously, while using the Salus
Vinigars; and a cold infusion of Rhassia, or as it is cal-
l'd, cold Rheumatism, often proves beneficial.
But the Liniment which appears to be of the most consequence
and greatest activity in Rheumatism is the Colchicum, in proof
of which most Authors who have had an opportunity of testing
its virtue, have united. The Salic, or Liniment of the Seeds
is now generally preferred to any other of its preparations:
The dose is from twenty, to thirty drops, three times a day,
gradually increasing. Besides its operation as a diuretic,
it appears also to exert a specific influence upon the heart
and Lenses, diminishing the circulation, and reestablish-
ing the lost equilibrium of the system. It is extensive in
effect in our Febrile and Typhoid, and appears to
sustain the respiration it was required.

Inasmuch as the functions of the Stomach are much
impaired at the commencement of this disease, the seldom
find it necessary to resort to Emetics in the course of its

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treatment. Above the attack comes on however while the Stomach is overloaded with Food, or when the Patient is resident in a district affected by anarth, miasmata, and exhibits a predisposition to Intermittent Fever, they may be advantageously used, it being generally safest to precede their exhibition by blood-letting. In delicate constitutions, if Emetics are at all employed, it is better to use those of the milder kind, as powdered Spicacuan, or the pine of this Root; but to produce their full effect, the addition of Tartarized Antimony will be found serviceable.

Having by these means, allayed the violence of vascular excitement, and thus prepared the System for their reception, we now have recourse to Linitivives. The primary action of this class of medicines being stimulating, they can be beneficially employed, while there is much phlogosis. They produce relief of the internal parts, by relaxing the Skin, unloading the capillaries, and inviting a flow of blood to the surface. It should be our object to keep up a continued, mild diaphoresis, rather than to induce a profuse

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Sweat. To attain that object we may administer the Nitrous Powder, the Sialival Mixture, or the Juice of Mindererus, combining with the latter preparations, Tartarized Antimony in the highest Lim of one grain to four ounces. Where there is not much fever the Compound Powder of Meacacumna with its most serviceable; it should be given in doses varying from five to fifteen grains. To assist in promoting the action of these Sudorifics, we may at the same time direct hot drinks, such as a decoction of Chamomile, Virginia Snake Root, or Hemlock Root, the latter of which the *Isopleuris Tuberosa* will often of itself produce a profuse perspiration. Warm or Capheat Baths may also be employed, the latter being the most useful; and the operation should be kept up for twelve or twenty four hours. Should restlessness or an increase of pain attend the exhibition of the Sudorifics they must be suspended.

To allay the violence of the pain in Acute Rheumatism, which is generally most severe at night, and prevents sleep, we may resort to some of the Narcotics, of which Opium is the best; but as an inflammation or distension precludes the administration.

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of this article, and as there are some constitutions in which
owing to peculiar idiosyncrasy, it always acts unfavorably,
the most careful practitioners under such circumstances will
substitute for it, *Hyoscinus*, *Verat.*, or *Lachnarium*, *pentag.*,
which, though less efficacious are more readily tolerated. Per-
haps under such circumstances the decoction of *Hyoscin* or the
Tincture of Cinna might be advantageously resorted to
when *Cinna* can be prescribed, it may be given in pretty large
doses so as to produce a decided effect. The best form for
its administration is the Rectified Tincture, of which, from twenty
to forty drops is the proper dose, varying according to the violence
of the pain. *Limonium* combined with the rectified tincture,
Veratrinum often proves useful in this pain.

To relieve the laryngeal affection we should apply *Caps. Sclerites*
to the throat, and afterward if necessary, a suction of *Nitric.*
Emulsion are likewise recommended as being very prompt
in allaying pain, and arresting phlogosis. Bathing the parts
with an alcoholic solution of Camphor is likewise useful, as are
covering them with *Mustard Leaves*, or those of the *Sulph.*

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Peplos, which by exciting perspiration produce a sense of cold
 most in the feet, and mitigate the pain. Notwithstanding
 all our efforts to arrest its progress, the disease still con-
 tinues to go on, and seems disposed to decline into the Critical
 State, as a last resource, we must interpose Mercury, and push
 its use, untill a slight salivation is produced. For this pur-
 pose Blue Mass must be given either alone, or, if there is much
 pain in conjunction with Opium.

During the whole course of this treatment, the strictest atten-
 tion should be paid to the diet of the Patient. It should be
 of the lightest kind, and during the presence of fever, and
 other general inflammatory symptoms it should be restricted
 to Barley or Rice Water, weak Gruel, and Panada, sedulously
 avoiding animal food in any form. The room should be kept
 of a moderate temperature, not exceeding 60° or 65° of Fahrenheit,
 and be well though cautiously ventilated; the patient not be-
 ing covered with more than a usual quantity of bed clothes.

If the Urine will allow of it, he may be allowed to get up.
 A convalescence will be assisted, by the use of Sarsaparilla, as before,

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Quinine^{or} but more especially the Sulphate of Quinine, carefully administered in small and repeated doses.

The morbid symptoms having subsided, the tongue cleared and the organs restored to their healthy functions, the diet may be made more nourishing, and Teale, or Tea, or a small quantity of most Substituted for the Broth &c. &c. but the return to the usual mode of living should be very gradual. Frictions upon the joints and muscles, and the frequent motion of the parts should be enjoined in order to prevent or remove the Stiffness and Debility, which are the frequent sequelae of this disease.

In their treatment must be Excluded Rheumatism, whose attacks are located itself in the cells or superficies of the body, or in the vessels producing Swellings of the parts, and occasionally gives rise to Remittent, when the complaint is cutaneous, as usually the joints with Limbs and Tendons, the Chronic nature of Rheumatism may likewise be given; but when the form is violent, especially if attended in the continuance of the heat, and fever accompanies, the proper treatment is to bleed and to administer a Remedy to the back of the neck. Bleeding the head with

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vinegar will sometimes give relief, and a succession of treated
 does occasionally remove the complaint altogether. — — —
 tubercular Rheumatism, differing from the Acute, only in its
 symptoms being more mild and the disease more circum-
 scribed; it is not necessary to point out any other treatment for
 its cure, than that which has been already detailed for the
 other form. The constitutional symptoms being much less de-
 veloped, general bleeding is easily required and the other parts of
 the curative process are to be proportioned to the mildness of the
 disease which we have to combat. — —

Chronic Rheumatism is that condition of the disease in which
 the inflammation of the parts persists in an out-spread, long
 characterized by heavy dull pain and stiffness, and unattended
 with constitutional fever. It is frequently a consequence of bad
 management in the acute stage of the disease; but in many
 instances, it is a primary disease, distinguished by symptoms
 of its own kind and as in either case it is slow and connected with an
 altered state of the system, it demands a corresponding treatment
 differing in many respects from that which is appropriate.

[Faint handwritten notes]

in the inflammatory or acute stage. When it appears as an
 idiopathic complaint, it is common in those persons who have
 called for motion of the joint in some manner not the
 sensible nature in earlier cases, to those instances in which it
 is treated. The cause undoubtedly is purifying and exalting, in
 such Rheumatism may be considered as really belonging to the
 division of the acute and Dr. Astruc's, Scurvy, Pusillum and
 the peculiarities of the veins are similar to that of leucoderma: the
 actual more glass mentions, at sometimes it is not in motion, is
 also found occasionally present out in the Rheumatism, and
 now and then confined in the parts affected. There is less such
 in the joints in the chronic state, and become particularly
 excessive in the course of an inflammation. During an attack the
 motion is being used, and a more moderate amount, owing to
 absorption, and lower tensions become thickened, rigid and
 swollen, so that the joints are not with the effort motion, con-
 sequently, motion, a motion and loss of motion. The symptoms
 are also occasionally thickened and the veins give up with
 a joint like a concrete substance.

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During an attack, the tongue is usually covered with a white fur, the skin dry, and the surface below the natural temperature, the bowels costive, and the pulse varying from 120 to 160, the Stokes in a minute. The joints, if they are the parts affected, become tumid and arthritic, and the limb cold, and sometimes almost torpid. It often proves very troubling in its course and exceedingly difficult to manage.

As we have no specific action to submit, our indications are, to have the topical affection, and restore the strength of the system. general bleeding is rarely, if ever demanded; unless when the disease is complicated with some other affection which gives rise to an inflammatory diathesis: but active and continued purging often proves of the highest utility. Cases are recorded when the disease has been entirely removed by the occurrence of Dysentery. This observation goes to show the close connection existing between Dysentery and certain affections of the intestinal tube, as Colic, Dysentery &c. The cessation of the disease from fevers, or other external parts affected, to the bowels, is peculiar, if they are in a state of irritation; is likewise not an uncommon occurrence.

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these facts render the powerful influence which can be exerted over the disorder, by operating upon the bowels, and point^{ing} out the utility of purging when judiciously conducted. The prescription, Scopolia and Saliva already mentioned, or that of balsam and compound Extract of Colocynthis may be advantageously employed, and is inevitable in any particular case, since even the Saliva purgative may be substituted: the latter is with Propriety, or benefit & it may likewise be given with advantage. Liniments are employed in the case of Spasmodic Muscular, as a cold infusion, *Phytolacca* a decoction of Juniper Berries, &c. The given in the quantity of four ounces in twelve hours, dissolved in warm water. The taste of which is alleviated by having affected a sweet in form and substance sweet. The mixture of Colicium is often highly beneficial, and may be combined with many of the other medicinal administrations. Those remedies which act upon the surface, are often attended with the greatest success in the treatment of this complaint; and as there is little or no constitutional excitement, the most safe, is perhaps the compound Tincture. Opacum, & Camphor and volatile Alkali, and stimulate these action with hot steam.

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when it remains on the skin. But as a profuse perspiration does not always aimous to produce the best effects, it is safer to select those articles which act upon the skin without exciting a profuse perspiration; as the Trisulphureals, camphor, Guaiacum &c. Of these the best is the volatile Tincture of Guaiacum: it should be given in the large dose, at from two to four drams three times a day or half an ounce may be taken when going to bed, the patient covering himself well with clothes, and winding feet, if some warm beverage, it produces a general glow throughout the system and often cures in a few hours. A decoction of Trisulphureals and Guaiacum made as follows, may be taken while using the volatile Tincture, and should be used at, viz

R Trisulphureals ansted ʒi

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To be put into three pint of water and boiled to a quart, the whole of which it is to be taken three in the day. This decoction is often efficacious when administered alone, but it must be continued

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for a considerable length of time. Where the muscles are much
wasted away, and there is rigidity of the joints, power of
lymph recommended given in doses of ten or fifteen grains, three
four times a day, gradually increasing the quantity. If this
debaases the blood as it sometimes will do, a small portion of
Opium may be combined with it. For patients residing in most
maritime districts, who are suffering under this complaint, Bath or
some of its preparations will generally be found the most speedy and
effective means of restoring health. It should be administered at
an intermittent dose; the system being first prepared for its recep-
tion. In similar cases Astoria has also been resorted to with success
— In some obstinate cases of Chronic Rheumatism after all
other remedies have failed, a mercurial course judiciously con-
ducted has proved completely successful. It therefore should be
employed as a "decree salutis", and so regulated as to produce but
a slight dysphasia, for which purpose the Blue Pill is to be preferred.
In directing our topical applications, we must be guided by
the state of the parts affected. If there is evidence of increased
vital action with swelling and pain, Leeches, or cups will be

proper, and their employment may be followed by Blisters or
 Linapisms. The establishment of ⁸ Pus in the neighbourhood of an
 affected joint, or a continued use of Tartar Emetic Ointment, will
 sometimes give relief, and dry sapping will occasionally remove
 deep seated pain. Fomentations, and stimulating Liniments are
 however most frequently required. Of the latter either of the follow-
 ing may be used with advantage, viz

R	Linsimentum Saponis	3ij	R Linim Saponis	3ijss
	Spt Animon Fort	3j	Decoc Canthar:	3℥ mft. bel
	Tine Thebaica	3ij	R Oleum Capivi	3i
mft	Oleum Lini	3j	Spt Torbenthine	3i mft

In the application of these remedies, there is no doubt, that a great
 share of the benefit is derived from the friction employed, the patient
 should therefore be enjoined to rub the parts well, with them,
 four or five times a day. Bandaging with a Flannel roller has
 been highly extolled by Dr Balfour, and where there is much
 muscular weakness, or the complaint is situated in an external
 Fossa, its high recommendation entitles it to a trial: at night the
 bandage should be removed, and friction substituted

Baths of various descriptions, as hot, cold, vapour, and Sulphur have all been strongly recommended; and when respectively applied to those cases for which they are appropriate, have each been attended with salutary results. Their use should also be accompanied with long continued friction, and motion of the parts affected. Electricity is also occasionally resorted to with success, as is also Acupuncture, which, during the last summer was employed ~~at~~ in several cases, at the Penn^a Hospital, and in three of them was attended with speedy and most decided improvement. The patients recovered the use of their limbs, and in a short time were able to return to their usual avocations.

To persons who have suffered from Rheumatism in either of its forms are liable to a return of the disease; every precaution should be observed, to guard against a relapse. Flannel should be worn next to the skin, and sudden changes in the temperature, guarded against by a corresponding change of clothing. The cold bath when it agrees with the patient, is often highly advantageous in restoring the tone and strength of the system.